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FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE LESS DEVELOPED AREAS

SUMMARY

Agenda Item: D.4.2

Brazil

ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF A TROPICAL CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF FOOD TECHNOLOGY

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Establishment and operation of a tropical center for the study of food technology

by

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SUMMARY

On of the basic problems in tropical countries is the production of enough food for their population. Most of these countries have an economy based on Agriculture and paradoxically, it is in this field that most of their failures become more apparent, being probably one of the basic causes of under development in such areas.

Food technology research is of exceptional importance for tropical countries. Numerous are the problems facing the investigator in this field. A short list of them would include: the study of preservation, storage, and handling of agricultural food products; the discovery of substitutes for wheat; research on edible oils, canned and frozen food, fruit juices and other products. These are practically unexplored areas in tropical food technology research.

Under the initiative of the Government of the State of São Paulo, a large center for food technology research is being created at the Instituto Agronômico, Campinas. The initial cost of this project is being estimated at about U.S.$3,000.000. This center will consist of a series of 15 buildings with very modern installations. Pilot plants will be available for the production of canned and frozen foods and juices; for dehydrated foods; for oil processing; for the production of distilled or fermented alcoholic drinks. Equipment will also be available for the investigation of methods of preservation, storage, and handling of cereals. Power, gas, water, and other facilities to be available at the Food Technology Center in Campinas will be equivalent to those needed for a city of about 5,000 in habitants.

The Food Technology Center at Campinas will be an international center for tropical food technology research and also serve as a place for post graduate studies for technical men from other tropical countries. Part of the expenditures for operating the center at Campinas will be met with funds granted by the United Nations Organization.

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